

Uber driver fired after being verbally attacked by wealthy Michigan student

The Uber driver filmed the attack but has been let go whilst the company is investigating the incident

Rachael Revesz New York | [@RachaelRevesz](#) | 11 months ago |  9 comments

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The Independent US



Jake Croman and his friends taunted Uber driver Artur Zawada yet Mr Zawada has been fired *YouTube / Artur Zawada*

A wealthy University of Michigan student whose verbal attack against an Uber driver was filmed and has gone viral has resulted in the Uber driver being fired after he was accused of being anti-semitic.

Student Jake Croman, son of New York real estate developer Steven Croman, and his friends verbally taunted Uber driver Artur Zawada after he refused their fare.

Mr Zawada filmed and uploaded a video of the incident and it has since been viewed more than 600,000 times.

“You’re canceling us again why? For what?” Mr Croman, a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, asked him.

Getting no response, Mr Croman then repeatedly swore at Mr Zawada and used anti-gay slurs.

“They [Uber] don’t give a s**t about you. They don’t give two f***s. There’s 50 of you, and there is one of me here. Who spends the most money, you little f***?”

[Warning: this video contains explicit language]



Mr Zawada filed a criminal complaint with Ann Arbor police.

The *Michigan Review* reported that Mr Zawada was let go by Uber as claims surfaced that other passengers had heard him making anti-semitic remarks.

Mr Zawada strongly denied the claims.

“They do whatever they want,” said Mr Zawada. “No call, no email, no legal doc. I’m losing money everyday, and I did nothing wrong.”

An Uber spokesperson said both Mr Zawada and Mr Croman have been suspended while they are investigating the incident.

Mr Zawada, 50, a Polish immigrant, said he had never been treated as badly as by Mr Croman during his 30 years in the US.

He told college news network *The Tab* that he had picked up Mr Croman before and the trips had gone badly, so he refused to pick him up again.

“He knew that but he didn’t cancel the trip,” he said. “I pulled in, I didn’t even say anything to the guy, and that happened. So I pulled out my cell phone and recorded him. He should just have canceled before I came over. They were looking for trouble. They were hoping I would lose my cool.”

A University of Michigan spokesperson said they are “extremely disappointed” in the behaviour of some of its students, and the dean of the university had met with both the students and the driver.

Mr Croman said in a statement to media outlets including *BuzzFeed News* that the driver had refused to pick him up due to the driver being anti-semitic.

“What you don’t see in the video is that the driver had made a number of offensive anti-Semitic remarks that provoked my response,” he said. “I am not proud of my reaction to his discrimination and I regret my choice of words. Shortly after the verbal altercation, I filed a complaint with the Ann Arbor Police Department and they are now dealing with the issue.”

BuzzFeed could find no record of Mr Croman’s police complaint.

His father Steven has reportedly used tactics like intimidation and hiring a police officer to evict his tenants from rent-controlled apartments, spurring a group called the *Croman*

His son works at the company, 9300 Realty, as an associate, according to his LinkedIn page.

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Rebba

331 days ago

Clearly Uber driver was not telling the whole story. So even more shady Uber just dumped him. You never hear a straight story from these creeps.

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yonnybriggs111

330 days ago

Creeps? what gives you the right to call them creeps? This rat homophobic student is the creep. And you probably aren't aware living in your little bubble, but using fake anti-antisemitism claims is the go to defense for Jewish people caught in a compromising situation...wake up

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herman

331 days ago

This arrogant twit was clearly in the wrong the taxi driver showed great restraint. I wouldn't of accepted the fare either and being a bit quick tempered....

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JohnJo

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The rich kid is lying obviously. He likes to think he can lord is over poorer people. I blame his parents for his up bringing.

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Zayin

331 days ago

Does this stupid argument warrent an international debate Jew obsession springs to mind. The kid is proberbly a snotty nosed pain in the ass ,with a feeling of entitlement. The driver proberbly is not keen on us Jews. Big deal ! It's a non event !

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Mario Tabone-Vassallo


331 days ago

The only one of the four aspirant candidates not to suck up to APAC was Bernie Sanders, who is himself Jewish and I would gladly vote for. No wonder Moslems feel they are considered sub human with episodes like this. As soon as one criticises the abuse of power or humanitarian law, one is labelled as antisemitic. In the context of this episode, The Times of Israel Daily Edition of MAR 29, 2016, reports: Croman is the son of multimillionaire NewYork real estate developer Steven Croman, who is being investigated by the NewYork State attorney general for allegedly using illegal tactics to pressurerent-stabilized tenants into vacating their apartments,

**Bob Studholme**



332 days ago

They're smirking like a gang of schoolboys playing a prank. They don't look like people who've been abused, more like ones who are abusing.

[Reply](#) [Share](#)+3 likes  **arseniy1234**

332 days ago

If he said anything anti-Semitic then why didn't the guy bring it up when having a go at him? Instead he talked about minimum wage...?

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330 days ago

because nothing antisemitic was said. The Jewish kid probably uses the antisemitic card all the time to justify his terrible conduct

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